Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01900 292136Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /073 W
----------010084 292141Z /66
O R 291938Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8515
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1900

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV WA SF
SUBJ: NAMIBIA: MCHENRY MEETS WITH HAMUTENYA AND GEINGOB

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR MCHENRY MET WITH SWAPO OFFICIALS HAMUTENYA AND GEINGOB IN LUSAKA MAY 29. THEY TOLD HIM THAT CASSINGA RAID WAS HAVING A SIGNIFICANT EMOTIONAL EFFECT ON SWAPO AND PLACING NUJOMA UNDER GREAT PRESSURE FROM THOSE ADVOCATING A MILITARY SOLUTION. WHILE THE TWO APPEARED TO SUPPORT CONTINUED WESTERN EFFORTS FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT, THEY EMPHASIZED NEED FOR POSITIVE STEPS BY SOUTH AFRICA SUCH AS THE RELEASE OF RECENTLY ARRESTED POLITICAL DETAINEES. HOWEVER, THEY FELT THAT THERE WAS NO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 01900 292136Z

CHANCE OF SWAPO'S RESUMING DISCUSSIONS FOR TWO TO THREE WEEKS.
END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR MCHENRY MET MAY 29 IN LUSAKA WITH HAGE GEINGOB, DIRECTOR OF THE UN INSTITUTE FOR NAMIBIA, AND HIDIPO HAMUTENYA, MEMBER OF THE SWAPO NEGOTIATING TEAM AND INSTITUTE OFFICIAL. MCHENRY BRIEFED GEINGOB AND HAMUTENYA ON THE PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

AND ON THE RESULTS OF HIS VISITS TO NAMIBIA, AND SOUTH AFRICA.
HE STRESSED THE URGENT NEED TO GET DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE FIVE
AND SWAPO UNDERWAY AGAIN.

3. BOTH GEINGOB AND HAMUTENYA WERE RECEPTIVE TO THE NEED TO RESUME
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FIVE. HAMUTENYA, WHO IN OUR PREVIOUS
CONTACTS WITH HIM HAS BEEN A DOCTRINAIRE HARDLINER, WAS FORTH-
COMING AND CONSTRUCTIVE. THE TWO SWAPO OFFICIALS SAID THAT IN THE
WAKE OF THE CASSINGA RAID NUJOMA HAD COME UNDER TREMENDOUS
PRESSURE FROM THE "MEN WHO ARE CARRYING THE GUNS" (A LIKELY
REFERENCE TO PLAN, THE SWAPO MILITARY WING) AND OTHERS WHO ARE
ARGUING FOR A MILITARY SOLUTION. THE SWAPO PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS
IN NEW YORK IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE RAID TO THE EFFECT THAT HE
PLANNED TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FIVE WERE PARTICULARLY
RESENTED. GEINGOB SAID THAT EMOTIONS ARE RUNNING SO HIGH IN SWAPO
THAT STUDENTS AT THE INSTITUTE ARE BOYCOTTING CLASSES ON FRENCH
CULTURE TAUGHT BY A FRENCH INSTRUCTOR BECAUSE OF SOUTH AFRICA'S
USE OF FRENCH-BUILT AIRCRAFT IN THE MAY 4 ATTACKS. BASED UPON
WHAT HE HAS HEARD FROM FELLOW SWAPO MEMBERS IN LUANDA, FROM
WHERE HE RECENTLY RETURNED, GEINGOB SAID HE BELIEVED THERE WAS
LITTLE PURPOSE IN THE FIVE'S TRYING TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS WITH
SWAPO IN THE NEXT TWO TO THREE WEEKS.

4. WHAT GEINGOB AND HAMUTENYA FEEL IS NEEDED NOW--THEY ALMOST
PLEADED FOR IT--IS SOME POSITIVE GESTURE BY SOUTH AFRICA TO WHICH
THEY COULD POINT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THEIR COLLEAGUES AS A
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 01900 292136Z

REASON FOR SWAPO'S CONTINUING TO FOLLOW THE NEGOTIATING TRACK.
AS AN EXAMPLE, THEY SUGGESTED THAT THE SAG MIGHT RELEASE THE
"MOST RECENT" SWAPO DETAINEES ARRESTED IN NAMIBIA UNDER THE
ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL'S RECENT SECURITY DECREE (AG-26).

5. MCHENRY SAID THAT WHILE HE COULD UNDERSTAND THAT THE CASSINGA
RAID HAD REINFORCED SWAPO'S DISTRUST OF THE SOUTH AFRICANS, IT
WAS ESSENTIAL TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE. HE THEN DISCUSSED
WITH HAMUTENYA AND GEINGOB THE KEY REMAINING POINTS OF SWAPO
CONCERN, EXPLAINING IN DETAIL WHY WE BELIEVED THAT OUR PROPOSAL
WAS FAIR AND HOW SWAPO'S INTERESTS WOULD BE PROTECTED. ON WALVIS
BAY, HAMUTENYA AND GEINGOB INDICATED THAT A WORKABLE FORMULA
COULD BE ARRIED AT. THEY WOULD LIKE THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE THE
LEAD (THEY ASSUME THAT THE OTHER FOUR WILL FOLLOW) AND WOULD
PREFER A UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION OVER A STATEMENT. THE
TWO DID NOT REAISE ANY SERIOUS OBJECTION OF THEIR OWN TO MCHENRY'S
EXPLANATION OF THE PROPOSAL'S TREATMENT OF UN FORCE LEVELS, BUT
THEY SAID THAT A CONCRETE FIGURE WOULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE HELP
IN DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE WITH THEIR COLLEAGUES.

6. GEINGOB AND HAMUTENYA SAID THAT NUJOMA WAS STILL IN ANGOLA,
ALTHOUGH THEY SEEMED TO THINK THAT HE MIGHT SHORTLY BE COMING TO

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

LUSAKA. GEINGOB EXPLAINED THAT COMMUNICATIONS WITH LUANDA WERE POOR, SO THEY WERE NOT CERTAIN.

7. GEINGOB STATED THAT CASSINGA WAS NOT A MILITARY BASE BUT WAS A TRANSIT CAMP/RECEPTION CENTER FOR NAMIBIANS LEAVING THEIR HOME-LAND TO JOIN SWAPO. HE HAD, IN FACT, BEEN PLANNING TO VISIT THERE TO ADMINISTER EXAMINATIONS TO APPLICANTS TO THE INSTITUTE. HAMUTENYA SAID THAT SWAPO IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN MOVING APPROX-MATELY 9,000 PEOPLE IN ANGOLA TO NEW LOCATIONS. THEY INCLUDE SOME 4,090 FROM CASSINGA AND OTHERS FROM A LARGE CAMP 70 MILES FROM CASSINGA WHICH WAS OVERFLOWN (BUT NOT ATTACKED) BY SADF MIRAGE JETS ON THE DAY OF THE RAID. THIS MOVEMENT OF PERSONNEL, HE SAID, IS AN ADDITIONAL, IF TEMPORARY, IMPEDIMENT TO SWAPO'S RESUMING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FIVE.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

8. FOR USUN, ACTION REQUESTED: IN ORDER TO PROVIDE HAMUTENYA AND GEINGOB WITH INFORMATION ON THE NATURE OF UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS--USEFUL FOR THEM AS WELL AS IN THEIR OWN CONTACT WITH THEIR COLLEAGUES--PLEASE SEND BY IMMEDIATE CABLE TO LUSAKA TEXTS OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 425 AND 426 (ON LEBANON) AS WELL AS TEXT OF REPORT OF SYG APPROVED BY RES. 426.

9. COMMENT: WE WERE STRUCK BY THE STRONG INTEREST HAMUTENYA SHOWED IN A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. CLEARLY, HE WILL ONLY SUPPORT AN AGREEMENT WHICH PROVIDES SWAPO WITH A FAIR CHANCE IN ELECTIONS AND WHICH DOES NOT EXPOSE IT TO PHYSICAL DESTRUCTION BY THE SAG, BUT HE APPEARS EAGER FOR SWAPO TO PURSUE THE NEGOTIATING TRACK IF THE POLITICAL CLIMATE MAKES IT POSSIBLE. (AT ONE POINT, HE COMMENTED THAT HIS "HANDS HAD BEEN TIED" BY THE CASSINGA RAID AND ITS AFTERMATH.) END COMMENT. LOW

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LUSAKA01900
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780225-0379
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780510/aaaaaibf.tel
Line Count: 152
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3e214693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2507276
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: MCHENRY MEETS WITH HAMUTENYA AND GEINGOB
TAGS: PDEV, PBOR, WA, SF, SWAPO, (GEINGOB, HAGE), (HAMUTENYA, HIDIPO)
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3e214693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014